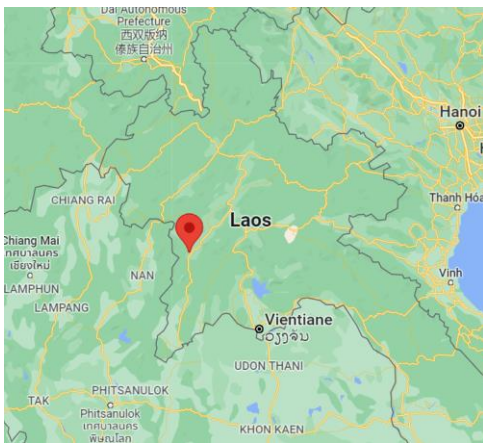


Facts

Name	Meuang Phiang Primary School
Type of facility	School Building
Number of students	249 (129 boys, 120 girls)
Number of teachers	13 (3 males, 10 females)
Number of classrooms to be built by us	1 new building with 6 fully-furnished classrooms and 4 new toilets
Size of building	336 m ²
Budget	USD 64,225
Construction period	April 2022 – November 2022
Project manager	Chirasak Petchchompoo (Gee)
Location	Baan Phonxay Phiang District Xaignabouli Province North-Lao PDR

Map



Description

Lao PDR is considered one of the poorest and least developed countries in Southeast Asia. Even though the social and economic conditions in Lao PDR have improved since its independence in 1975, there is still significant wealth disparity amongst Laotians. Meuang Phiang Primary School is located in Baan Phonxay, Phiang District, Xaignabouli Province of north-western Lao PDR. Founded in 1496 and the oldest village in the district, the village is home to 3,896 people living in 705 households. Most families and individuals rely on farming, plantation work, construction and animal husbandry for their livelihoods. There is water, electricity and mobile phone coverage but the village lacks a local health centre. Established in 1941, Meuang Phiang Primary School has a current enrolment of 249 students (129 boys and 120 girls) aged six to twelve years old and with 13 teachers (3 men, 10 women), 2 of which are volunteers. The school grounds contain three buildings for a total of twelve classrooms. One of the buildings built in 2008 with 4 classrooms, a teachers' room and a library was evaluated as in reasonably good condition and safe. The other two buildings, however, were evaluated as unsafe and a major risk for the students and teachers. Both buildings were built in 1996 by the community to create more classroom space for the students, however, they were not built to last. Exposure to the harsh Laotian climate along with poor structural design has left both buildings in a state of major disrepair. The wood is severely deteriorated and termite infested leaving the structural integrity of the buildings questionable with the potential risk of collapse. The zinc sheet metal roofs and lack of proper ventilation creates extremely hot temperatures inside the classrooms, especially during summer months. During the rainy season, water rushes in through the numerous gaps in the ceilings and walls creating muddy floors while dust billows when its dry and windy. The students and teachers are clearly at risk and lack a safe alternative to learn and teach. Therefore, a new school building with six fully-furnished classrooms is urgently needed. Replacing the current hazardous buildings with a new, high quality building will offer the best solution for the school. Teachers and the students will benefit greatly from a new, safe and encouraging environment allowing them to develop into their full potential. In addition to a new building, we will also build four new toilets to help improve the sanitation standards of the school and prevent hygiene-related illnesses while reducing dropout rates.

Implementation

As with all our projects, the local community will be involved in the construction process. Involvement of the community is critical, as it encourages a stronger sense of ownership over the project. The community will contribute by providing wood for the walls and for the wall frames. Payments will be made in instalments according to the progress of the construction with 5% of the total labour cost held back for 12 months, as a guarantee for the quality of the work. The teachers' salaries and training are supported and managed by the government. We consider this a low risk project. The school location is on a main road so access isn't a problem. Construction is targeted to begin in April 2022 and should be completed in November 2022.

Photos



The old, dilapidated school buildings are in dire need of being replaced

Budget

FX: USD 1 = THB 32.70

Item	THB	USD	In %
Construction Materials	1,225,467	37,476	58
Interior Equipment & Furniture	193,043	5,903	9
Labour Cost	456,517	13,961	22
Implementation & Monitoring Cost	78,126	2,389	4
Administration Overhead	147,012	4,496	7
Total Budget	2,100,165	64,225	100



The students and teachers are in desperate need of a new, safe building to learn and teach



The gaps in the walls, holes in the ceilings and dirt floors all create an extremely inadequate classroom environment

